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February 10, 2006

MAIL STOP PCT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PCT/BE2003/000135
-filed August 13, 2003

Re: Application of Louis AERTS, Alain VAN DERGHEYNST, Jean HEYLEN
SEALING DEVICE FOR THE OUTER SURFACE OF A NUCLEAR FUEL
CLADDING
Assignee: BELGONUCLEAIRE SA
Our Ref: Q93171

Dear Sir:

The following documents are submitted herewith in connection with the above application for the purpose of entering the National stage under 35 U.S.C. §371 and in accordance with the Patent Cooperation Treaty:

- ☒ a copy of the executed Declaration and Power of Attorney.
- ☐ an English translation of the International Application.
- ☒ a copy of the Published WO 2005/017921 application (14 pages).
- ☒ 8 sheet(s) of drawings (Figures 1, 2, 3a-3d, 4a-c, 5, 6a-c).
- ☐ an English translation of Article 19 claim amendments.
- ☐ an English translation of Article 34 amendments (annexes to the IPER).
- ☐ a copy of the executed Assignment and PTO 1595 form.
- ☒ a copy of the ISR.
- ☐ a copy of the IPER.
- ☒ a PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) listing the ISR/IPER references.
- ☒ a copy of the EP '742 reference listed in the ISR.
- ☒ a Preliminary Amendment.

It is assumed that copies of the International Application, the International Preliminary Examination Report and the certified priority document will be supplied directly by the International Bureau, but if further copies are needed, the undersigned can easily provide them upon request.

It is expressly requested that the national stage of processing be commenced immediately in accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 371(f).



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Please see the attached PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT before calculating the filing fee.

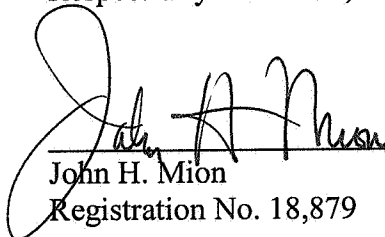
The Government filing fee is calculated as follows:

Total claims	<u>5</u>	-	20	=	<u> </u>	x	\$50.00	=	<u>\$0.00</u>
Independent claims	<u>1</u>	-	3	=	<u> </u>	x	\$200.00	=	<u>\$0.00</u>
Base Fee									<u>\$300.00</u>
Search Fee*									<u>\$400.00</u>
Examination Fee									<u>\$200.00</u>
<u>TOTAL FEE</u>									<u>\$900.00</u>

*The international search fee for all claims was not paid to the USPTO, as the ISA, but the ISR is being submitted herewith.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge the filing fee in the amount of \$900.00 and all other required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: February 10, 2006